GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4162
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2016
Utilisation of Funds by NMET
Sampath Shri Anirudhan

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that despite passage of a year of allotting mining licenses, no significant headway has been made by the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET), if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the State-wise details of activities carried out, progress made, funds allocated, released and utilized by NMET till date;

(c) the State-wise details of funds accrued to the Trust including the lease-wise details of two per cent royalty received from lease holders; and

(d) the State-wise details of the utilization/expenditure of funds collected under NMET till date?

Answer

(a) to (d): In pursuance of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Amendment Act 2015, the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) was set up vide gazette notification No. G.S.R. 633 (E) dated 14.8.2015 and the National Mineral Exploration Trust Rules 2015 were also notified vide Gazette Notification No. G.S.R. 632 (E) dated 14.8.2015, with the prime objective of promoting mineral exploration in the country. The amendment Act prescribes payment to the NMET, a sum equivalent to 2% of the royalty paid in terms of the minerals listed in the Second Schedule.

The government has taken following actions relating to NMET:

(i) As per NMET Rules, the Governing Body and the Executive Committee of NMET have been set up.
(ii) The meeting of Executive Committee and Governing Body of NMET was held and the modalities for utilization of funds accruing to NMET and processing of proposals received from the state governments for funding under NMET.
(iii) Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), a PSU under the Ministry of Mines has been designated as the nodal agency for carrying out exploration under NMET .
(iv) A Technical Committee has also been constituted to evaluate the projects for funding under the NMET.
(v) A tripartite agreement among NMET, MECL and the respective State Government has been approved for implementation of the exploration projects.
(vi) A separate account has been opened in the State Bank of India, Main Branch, Parliament Street, New Delhi for NMET Fund and State Governments have been advised to deposit NMET contribution in this Account.
(vii) Executive Committee has approved projects for implementation by MECL. The estimated cost of the 12 approved projects is around Rs. 21.61 crore, the details of which are as follows:

State Block Area sq.km Mineral
Cost (Rs.lakhs)
Status

1

Odisha (i) Jumka- Pathiriposhi Block, Sundargarh Distt. 1.71 Iron-ore 772.68 In
progress
(ii) Purheibahal- Chandiposhi Block, Sundargarh Distt. 1.35 Iron-ore 265.33 In
progress
2
Maharashtra (i) Mandri − Panchala Block, Nagpur Distt 2.50 Manganese 130.31 In
progress
(ii) Lanjera− Futala Block, Bhandara Distt. 8.00 Manganese 148.98 In
progress

Chhattisgarh	(i) Ranigaon- Gondaiya Block, Bilaspur Distt.	5.00	Limestone	100.52	In progress	
	(ii) Nahardih- Madhaipur Block, Raipur Distt.	5.45	Limestone	27.89	In progress	
	(iii) Sendurkhar Block, Kabirdham (Kawardha) Distt.	2.90	Bauxite	45.13	In progress	
	(iv) Saraipani- Dadar Block, Kabirdham (Kawardha) Distt.	0.80	Bauxite	44.66	In progress	
4						
Madhya Pradesh	(i) Ghunchihai Block, Satna Distt.	5.00	Limestone	57.75	In progress	
	(ii) Jamodi- Mahanna Block, Satna Distt.	30.00	Limestone	59.49	In progress	
	(iii) Naubasta- Kolard Block, Satna Distt.	15.00	Limestone	65.36	In progress	
5	Karnataka G.R. Halli South Block, Chitradurga Distt.	1.00	Gold	443.20	Pending	
12 Blocks Total		2161.30				

(viii) Additionally, three project proposals on gold from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, one proposal on limestone from Andhra Pradesh and one proposal on iron from Karnataka have been received. Further, 19 draft proposals on lignite/coal exploration in different states at an estimated cost of Rs. 86.00 crore have been submitted by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), Ranchi. CMPDIL is now preparing the detailed project reports for these projects.

(ix) Proposals on mineral exploration and capacity building have been invited from all the State Governments. State-wise committees have been constituted to evaluate the capacity building needs of State DGMs in mineral exploration and recommend to NMET for consideration. Draft proposals on capacity building have been received from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha.
As on 31.07.2016, NMET has received an amount of Rs.305.00 crore primarily from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Maharashtra, Goa, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

* * *